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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

IN RE APPLICATION OF: Makoto NAKAJIMA, et al.

SERIAL NO.: NEW U.S. PCT APPLICATION

FILED: HEREWITH

INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION NO.: PCT/JP04/19251

INTERNATIONAL FILING DATE: December 22, 2004

FOR: VERTICAL HEAT PROCESSING APPARATUS AND CONTROL METHOD FOR THE SAME

REQUEST FOR PRIORITY UNDER 35 U.S.C. 119
AND THE INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION

Commissioner for Patents
Alexandria, Virginia 22313

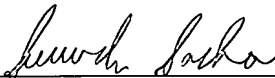
Sir:

In the matter of the above-identified application for patent, notice is hereby given that the applicant claims as priority:

<u>COUNTRY</u>	<u>APPLICATION NO</u>	<u>DAY/MONTH/YEAR</u>
Japan	2003-432596	26 December 2003

Certified copies of the corresponding Convention application(s) were submitted to the International Bureau in PCT Application No. PCT/JP04/19251.

Respectfully submitted,
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